The Southern PATRIOT

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"All Men Are Created Equal"

"What constitutes the bulwark of our own liberty and independence? It is not our frowning battlements, our bristling sea coasts, our army and our navy. These are not our reliance against tyranny . . . Our reliance is in the love of liberty which God has planted in us. Our defense is in the spirit which prized liberty as the heritage of all men, in all lands everywhere. Destroy this spirit and you have planted the seeds of despotism at your own doors . . . Accustomed to trample on the rights of others, you have lost the genius of your own independence and become the fit subjects of the first cunning tyrant who rises among you."

"My friends, I have detained you about as long as I desire to do, and I have only to say, let us discard all this quibbling about this man and the other man, this race and that race and the other race being inferior, and therefore they must be placed in an inferior position. Let us discard all these things, and unite as one people throughout this land until we shall once more stand up declaring that all men are created equal"

—Speeches in Illinois by Abraham Lincoln

BROTHERHOOD

When I was small,
I knew no color, or creed at all.
Since then, of course I grew;
Now, I know Negro, Gentile and Jew.
Please, dear Lord, let me always be
Small, that I may never see
Color or creed at all.

—James G. Johnson

THE GREAT CONSPIRACY

Rule by party bosses—not "white supremacy" or states rights—is the real issue in "Southern revolt."

The present argument over a national civil rights program shows clearly how the appeal to race prejudice is used to destroy the democratic rights of all citizens, white and colored.

In fighting the civil rights program Southern politicians say their major concern is "white supremacy" and states rights but their tactics demonstrate that their real objective is not rule by whites but rule by political bosses.

In the name of protecting "white supremacy" politicians have given us the poll tax, the Boswell Amendment in Alabama and other devices that had the effect of reducing the number of voters in Southern states to about one-half the average voting population in non-Southern states.

We have seen how the poll tax disfranchised twice as many whites as colored. But the present proposals go far beyond anything tried thus far and provide a neat answer to the politician's $64 question of how to handle a troublesome and unpredictable electorate. In the past the methods used have simply

(Continued on next page)

HOW DO YOU VOTE?

FOR THIS? →

OR THIS? ←

→

Circular to right was distributed on streets of New Orleans.

FOR WHITE MEN AND WOMEN EVERYWHERE

For the sake of our COUNTRY and the SOUTH I plead that you READ the following:

In 1944 genuine Democrats made the first serious move to eliminate from the real Democratic Party the alleged Negro-LOVING, pink and red MONGRELS who FALSELY called themselves Democrats—True, we were whipped and humiliated and on election day 1944 real Democrats found themselves with no place to go. BUT, THE SEED OF OUR STRENGTH HAD BEEN PLANTED!

Since then the scalawag, carpet-bagger Northern bosses of the New Deal Party kept adding shame and degradation to our lot—seemingly sure there was no end to what loyal Democrats would endure for party harmony—Late in 1947—after Chairman McGrath of the Democratic National Committee showed RIDICULE and SCORN for our Constitutional State Rights—GOVERNOR BEAUFORD JESTER of Texas sounded the first warning that the SOUTH and good-Democrats everywhere would not forever give BLIND OBEDIENCE to renegade, FALSE and Negro Democrats.

The warnings of Governor Jester gained wide public approval in the genuine Democratic newspapers and meeting places of the SOUTH and the entire nation—But New Deal spokesmen SCOFFED and POOH-POOHED the warning of Governor Jester—they laughed at the Texas spark as something they could STOMP out with the greatest of ease—they had the usual CONTEMPT for "IN THE BAG" Southern Democrats.

BUT THE TEXAS SPARK DID NOT DIE and since then FIRES have broken out in Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Alabama, Florida, Louisiana—sparks are flying all over the South—Now, GOVERNOR FIELDING WRIGHT, backed by the almost unanimous support of the entire Democracy of Mississippi, has challenged the Democrats of the South and Nation to work with his state to put an end to the delivery of the Democratic Party to the Negroes, the C. I. O., the Pinks and Reds who control and ride herd over these minority groups.

On Thursday, January 29, 1948, senior U. S. SENATOR JAMES EASTLAND of Mississippi told a joint session of both houses of the Mississippi legislature that "THE SOUTH HAD ITS BACK TO THE WALL", and that unless we defended the real Democratic Party we would soon be completely governed by a collection of "MONGRELS."

Senator Eastland said that, "In good times or in bad, the bone, sinew, the flesh and the constancy of the Democratic Party was found below the Mason and Dixon Line"

Instantly! Democrats asked "THEN, WHY NOT A DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION BELOW THE MASON AND DIXON LINE?!?!"

Congressional delegations from several Southern states are talking the situation over—At last! Political leadership have ears to the ground, waiting for "We the People" to stomp and speak.

If you are tired of the threat of FEPC—sick of the Wallaces, Hannegans, McGraths and Peppers—weary of C. I. O. and the Reds who want to MARRY us into the WILLING ARMS of the Negro! You can now do something about it before it is too late!

WE MUST HAVE A DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION BELOW THE MASON - DIXON LINE.

Five million white men and women of the South must get a message of approval to the thirteen governors of the Southern States—five million people must sign their name and address to one of these circulars and mail or carry it to their governor, ASKING FOR A DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION BELOW THE MASON-DIXON LINE.

Your political leaders are waiting to HEAR FROM YOU!—If you fail it will not be their fault. "THE HOPE OF THE NATION RESTS WAY DOWN SOUTH IN DIXIE!"

Cordially, John U. Barr,
P. O. Box 86 New Orleans, La.

Permission is granted to reproduce this in any publication and furnish additional copies at 75c per hundred delivered to you.

Mr. Barr is vice-president of the Federal Fiber Mills Division of the Plymouth Cordage Co., a national counsellor of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, regional vice-president of the Southern States Industrial Council, and has been a director of the Louisiana Manufacturers' Assn.

The Great Conspiracy

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reduced the number of voters on the assumption that a small vote is more manageable than a large vote. Now the politicians propose to disfranchise the voters altogether in presidential elections.

Briefly the present plan as advanced by Governor Tuck of Virginia and others is to remove from the ballot the names of presidential candidates. Names of political parties would remain on the ballot. Citizens would vote for a slate of electors as usual. However, the electors would **not** be pledged to cast their votes in the electoral college for the regular party candidate. Instead they would cast the electoral vote of their state for a candidate named by a party convention or small group of party bosses, probably the state executive committee of the party.

"A Brazen Scheme"

Florida's Senator, Claude Pepper, called this "a brazen scheme" to transfer political power "to a little group of party bosses."

The **Richmond Times-Dispatch** said editorially:

"Neither Virginians nor any other Southerners ought to be willing to abdicate their responsibilities as citizens by giving to a small group of politicians the right to decide after the November election for whom Virginia's electoral votes will be cast . . . It is neither wise, sensible nor democratic to try to save State's rights by throwing overboard the time-honored rights of the citizen."

Freedom Is Indivisible

In the present argument it might be well to remember a lesson from the last world war, that a threat to the freedom of one group is a threat to the freedom of all.

We saw it happen in Germany. First the Nazis deprived the Jews of their civil rights, then labor, then the church, then everyone.

The proposed changes in the electoral process is a revival of a plan that was tried in 1944 in an attempt by reactionary forces in the South to prevent the nomination of Franklin D. Roosevelt. Many of the men, like John U. Barr (see illustration on page 1) who were active in the 1944 campaign are now taking the lead in 1948.

The truth is that the men who fan the flames of racial and religious hate, who would deprive Negroes from voting and enjoying the constitutional rights of citizens have the same attitude toward the plain citizen whatever his color. They understand full well Hitler's motto, "divide and conquer." They would set white against colored in order to control both.

The real issue in 1948 is not rule by "white supremacy" but rule by political bosses. Shall we have rule by the few, or by the majority? Democracy itself is at stake.

Attack on Jim Crow Schools Spreads To Eight States

Events have been moving fast in the attack on Jim Crow schools in the South. The campaign now covers eight states.

Delaware

First crack in the solid wall of segregation in education came from a border state, when the Board of Trustees of the University of Delaware at Newark, moved voluntarily to accept without segregation properly qualified Negroes in the graduate and professional schools when such facilities were not available at Delaware State Teachers College, a Negro school at Dover.

Arkansas

The University of Arkansas announced that qualified Negroes would be admitted to the law school of the university under "a special arrangement" providing for a separate classroom in the law school building. The statement followed the application of Clifford Davis of Little Rock, a student at Howard University Law School, for admission to the law school of the university. The action of the University was condemned by the NAACP legal staff as unsatisfactory because it continued the pattern of segregation.

Mississippi

The Senate of the Mississippi legislature approved the action of its sister state, Arkansas.

Alabama

William Bell has applied for admission to Alabama Polytechnic Institute School of Architecture at Auburn. Bell, a young veteran with four years overseas service, and a student at Montgomery State Teachers College, was told his application would not be acted upon until July 1 when all applications are considered.

Kentucky

A bill will come before the Kentucky legislature permitting institutions of higher learning to accept students of both races. A slightly different bill making such a policy mandatory was passed by the House at the last session of the legislature but was lost in the Senate.

Missouri

A white Baptist school, William Jewell College at Liberty, Missouri, rejected the application of Rev. William L. Blake, Negro minister, because of race.

Oklahoma

The United States Supreme Court refused to order the University of Oklahoma Law School to accept Mrs. Ada Louis Sipuel-Fisher. Presumably the court was waiting for the State Supreme Court to act.

Oklahoma had hastily set up a segregated three-room law school in the State Capitol to be called the Langston University Law School. But the new institution was left with no students when Mrs. Fisher rejected this Jim Crow arrangement, and the application of a white student was side-tracked.

The white applicant was Walter M. Harrison, former managing editor of the **Oklahoma City Times** and a lieutenant colonel during World War II.

Texas

The Sweatt case in Texas moved a step nearer the Supreme Court when the Third District Court of Appeals upheld the position of the State that in setting up a segregated law school for Herman M. Sweatt it had offered him facilities substantially equal to those enjoyed by white students at the University of Texas Law School at Austin. Thurgood Marshall, chief counsel fo rthe NAACP, has argued that a separate one-student school is not "equal" and furthermore that segregation itself is a violation of the constitution.

Is This Virginia Democracy?

—Richmond Times-Dispatch

Southern Students Fight For More Democracy

There is a refreshing upsurge of democratic faith among Southern students.

Oklahoma

At the University of Oklahoma a crowd of 1,000 students faced 19 degree weather to watch the cremation of the 14th Amendment as a protest to the university's segregation policy. After collecting $1.20 postage and singing "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" the ashes were mailed to President Truman.

A forum sponsored by the Inter-Religious council heard four speakers, two on each side, discuss the question, "Should Negroes Be Admitted to the University of Oklahoma."

Auburn Poll

At Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn, second largest state-supported institution for white students, a poll of students showed more than 60 per cent of polled graduate students in favor of admitting Negro students to API.

The answers showed 30.46 per cent in favor of admission, 58.9 against, and 10.63 per cent neutral. In the total results the high favorable vote of the graduate students was offset by the freshman vote.

No Jim Crow "Y" Conferences

Students from ten Southern states rejected Jim Crow practices and voted for a single regional conference of YMCA and YWCA representatives.

N. C. Wallace Rally

Some two hundred students representing 22 Negro and white colleges and universities of North Carolina met at Chapel Hill for a two-day Wallace rally. All of their sessions including lunch and dinner served at the Presbyterian Church were held without segregation.

Within the past few months at three large mass meetings on the campuses of the University of Texas, Tulane University, and the University of Louisiana, attended by 15 to 20 thousand students and faculty, when the speaker, Henry Wallace, attacked segregation and racial discrimination, there was an outburst of spontaneous and prolonged applause.

Louisiana

Last year there was a question of whether or not Negroes should be invited to a Tri-State student conference at the University of Louisiana. The question was settled by ballot and the students voted two to one (2,294 to 1,359) to invite the Negroes.

SNYC Poll

4,000 Southern Negro students at 11 colleges voted in a poll on presidential candidates conducted by the Southern Negro Youth Congress. The results gave Wallace 58 per cent, Dewey 16 per cent, Truman 13 per cent, Eisenhower 9 per cent, Stassen 3 per cent, Taft 1 per cent.

Florida Students Oppose Regional Schools

Students at the University of Florida protested the meeting at Gainesville of Southern governors and educators to discuss regional professional schools for Negroes. Students called the plan "ignorant and prejudiced", and claimed they had a stake in what the session decided. It is obvious, students charged, that the "dissipation of funds through the establishment of parallel institutions will retard our educational growth."

Emory Students Protest

Recently the Democratic Executive Committee of a Georgia County in a "white supremacy" move to keep Negroes from voting, announced that in order to qualify to vote in the Democratic primary citizens must first subscribe to certain specified statements of belief. Ten students at Emory University promptly released to the press an open letter of protest.

In marked contrast to the democratic attitude of students is the attitude of their "leaders".

The Mississippi Viewpoint

A college president in Mississippi writes us: "Segregation is already a fixed principle of American Democracy. It is the inherent and inalienable right of any Political or social group to determine whether it shall preserve pure racial strains or encourage interbreeding. Any effort to change this principle by law will not only fail but will only intensify racial antagonisms."

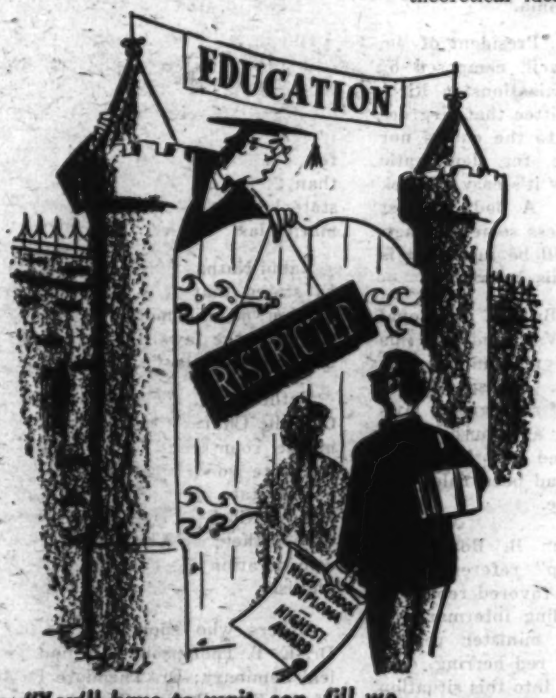
Four of the 28 members of the President's Commission on Higher Educatoin go along with this Mississippi quaint idea of democracy.

The majority report, one of the important documents of the year, said:

"The Commission is opposed to discrimination and believes it should be abandoned."

The four dissenters recognized the "theoretical idealism" of the Commission's recommendations but thought such pronouncements on segregation "impede progress, and threaten tragedy" and implied that the Commission ignored "the facts of history and the realities of the present."

The four dissenting members of the Commission are Arthur H. Compton, president, Washington University, St. Louis, Mo.; Douglas S. Freeman, editor, Richmond, Va.; Lewis W. Jones, president, University of Arkansas; Goodrich C. White, president, Emory University, Ga.



"You'll have to wait, son, till we check on your race and religion!"

Courtesy Institute for American Democracy, Inc.

Virginians Call For Repeal of Jim Crow Laws

Repeal of Virginia's "Jim Crow" laws was advocated at two public hearings conducted in February by the House Committee on Courts of Justice.

Although only two days' notice had been given, about 200 persons, including both whites and Negroes, crowded into the small committee room to hear the discussion of five bills by Delegate W. H. C. Murray, of Richmond, to eliminate racial segregation on public carriers and in places of public assembly.

Most of those who testified were white Virginians. No one appeared against the bills.

If Democracy Is Meaningful

Mr. Murray, former president of the AFL Central Labor Union of Richmond, opened the discussion with the statement that under the Jeffersonian doctrine, "I don't believe there can be two kinds of citizenship . . . If we are to make democracy a real ideology, a real and meaningful thing, we ought to start here and now in Virginia."

Dr. W. L. Ransome, President of the Richmond Civic Council, composed of over 200 Negro organizations in Richmond, told the Committee that Negroes did not like to go into the courts nor to have to "agitate for democratic rights. But you know it's easy to stick with the status quo. A body at rest remains at rest. Unless somebody agitates this thing, it will be just as it is until Gabriel blows his horn."

The Rev. Carroll Brooke, Episcopal rector of Staunton, Va., said that his church has no laws, no canons, that recognize segregation. He specifically appealed for repeal of segregation laws on trains, streetcars and buses as a first step and pointed out that such segregation already had been ruled out in interstate commerce.

Committeeman John B. Boatwright noted the "first step" reference and asked if Rev. Brooke favored repeal of Virginia laws forbidding intermarriage of the races. The minister replied "that is the same old red herring, continually being thrown into this situation and has nothing to do with the situation we are discussing here."

Mrs. Frederick R. Scott of the YWCA said repeal of segregation was "the Christian American" thing to do.

Others who advocated repeal were Dr. Garnett Ryland of the University of Richmond; Dr. J. H. Marioh, Presbyterian minister; Dr. Rachel Henderlight; and Miss Adele Clark.

At a second public hearing by a subcommittee of the House Courts of Justice Committee a dozen witnesses appeared to testify in favor of segregation repeal. Again there were no witnesses against the five bills.

Laws of Va. vs. Laws of God

Oliver W. Hill, Richmond attorney, speaking for the Old Dominion Bar Association, a statewide organization of Negro lawyers, said that segregation frustrates the Negro's natural search for democracy. Mr. Hill lacked less than 200 votes of being elected to the state legislature in the Democratic primaries last August.

Rabbi Nathan Kollin, of Temple Beth-El stated that it is the overwhelming opinion of Richmond Jews "it's high time for the laws of Virginia to sanction what the la wsof God demand."

Father T. I. O'Connell, of St. Paul's Catholic Church, told the crowded committee room that 70,000 Catholics in the state would have to violate the laws of the state in order to conform to the laws of Christ. Negroes, he said, have earned their right to just and Christian consideration by their loyalty and patriotism.

Others who spoke for repeal were Dr. E. T. Thompson, of Union Theological Seminary; Dr. Theodore F. Adams, of the First Baptist Church, Richmond; Mrs. Ruth B. Hawes, of the League of Women Voters; A. L. Bennett, Superintendent of the Methodist Orphanage; and Dr. T. H. Henderson, Dean of Virginia Union University.

Dr. W. L. Ransome testifying at hearing on repeal of Virginia's "Jim Crow" laws.

Segregation In Education

The special "Segregation In Education" issue of the Southern Patriot is now in its fifth edition. Seventy thousand copies have been printed. Here are the facts, pictures and charts describing the most glaring contradiction in American democracy. Order your copies now: 15c each; $10 per 100; $50 per 1,000, from The Southern Patriot, 808 Perdido Street, New Orleans 12, La.

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